

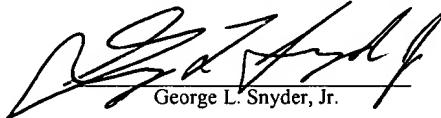
PTO/PCT Rec'd 28 FEB 2000  
09/423916

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

Applicants: Andreas METELSKI et al. Group Art Unit: unknown  
Serial No.: 09/423,916 Examiner: unknown  
I.A. Filed: 20-May-1998 Attorney Ref.: 288.999651  
I.A. No.: PCT/EP98/02964  
Title: MICROSCOPE STAND, ESPECIALLY FOR A SURGICAL MICROSCOPE

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT and enclosures mentioned herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on February 24, 2000 in an envelope addressed to: Box PCT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

  
George L. Snyder, Jr.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PCT  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please preliminarily amend the above-identified application as follows:

*IN THE SPECIFICATION:*

At page 1, line 3 (blank line), please insert the centered heading --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--;

At page 3, line 13 (blank line), please insert the centered heading --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--;

At page 9, line 18, please change "WO 97/2016 A1" to read --WO 97/20166--;

At page 11, line 21 (blank line), please insert the centered heading --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--;

At page 13, line 3 (blank line), please insert the centered heading --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF